

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested. Claims 25-33 are now pending in this application, claims 1-24 having been cancelled and new claims 25-33 having been added by the present Amendment.

New claims 25-33 emphasize the feature of an electronic mail server that receives an electronic mail including image data as an attached file, converts a file format of the attached file based on information regarding a transmitting terminal and/or information regarding a destination terminal, and forwards to the destination terminal the electronic mail received from the transmitting terminal including the attached converted file.

Support for new claims 25-33 is provided, e.g., in original claims 4-7 and 19 and, e.g., in Fig. 5 of the application and the accompanying description in the specification.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-10, 14-21 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Togawa et al.** (USP 7,252,198). Claims 11-12 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Togawa et al.** as applied to claims 1-10, 14-21 and 24 above, further in view of **Katsikas** (US Pat. Pub 2005/0188045). Claims 13 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Togawa et al.**, as applied to claims 1-12, 14-21 and 24 above, further in view of the Official Notice. For the reasons set forth in detail below, these rejections, to the extent they apply to the new claims, are respectfully traversed.

The currently cited **Togowa et al.** reference relates to a server that manages transmission of an electronic mail based on the size of the transmitted electronic mail compared to the data size receivable by the destination. **Togawa et al.** teaches compressing the transmitted e-mail or dividing the e-mail when it is determined that the size of the transmitted electronic mail is greater than the data size receivable by the destination.

For example, in accordance with the embodiment shown in Fig. 19, a managing server 33 acts as a mail processing section that controls sending of an e-mail to a destination according to the data size of e-mail that is receivable by the destination. More specifically, as described in col. 17, line 57 – col. 18, line 8, the managing server 33 includes a system environment information table 40 (see Fig. 16) that registers the system environments of the clients that are destinations for receiving e-mail. The system environment information table includes various information, including the capacity of a receivable e-mail and information as to whether or not a divided file can be combined together, etc.

However, unlike the invention presently recited in new claim 25, **Togowa et al.** does not disclose or suggest converting a format of an image file attached to an electronic mail. Moreover, **Togowa et al.** does not disclose or suggest features such as those recited in new claims 26 and 27, wherein the electronic mail server converts the file format of the attached file based on a domain of a first terminal and a domain of a second terminal (or based on an electronic mail address of the first terminal and an electronic mail address of the second terminal).

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Further, it is noted that the Examiner rejects claims 4-7, which include features similar to those recited in claim 25 over **Togawa**. However, **Togawa** does not teach converting an image file attached to an electronic e-mail, and does not teach the specific features of this conversion recited in dependent claims 26-31.

It is submitted that **Katsikas** does not alleviate the above-noted deficiencies of **Togawa**.

For all of the reasons set forth above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under §103 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection and an indication of allowability of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are issues remaining to be resolved in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite and complete prosecution of this case.

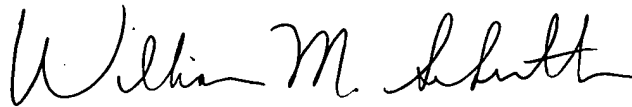
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If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William M. Schertler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" and last name "Schertler" being clearly legible.

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